

DRAFT

**TOWN OF VERNON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 16, 2012, 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 3RD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE
ROCKVILLE/VERNON, CT**

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
12 JUL 31 PM 2:30

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Wieting, Thomas Ouellette, Ryan Goad, Russell Kunz

STAFF PRESENT: Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Scott Wieting.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

A. Acceptance of Minutes of June 18, 2012.

Change 2B Communications – second bullet – Connecticut Wildlife (May/June 2012)

Should read “Russell Kunz will contact Jane Seymour to confirm that a project *can* be put in place to provide wood duck nest boxes.”

Motion was made by Ryan Goad to accept the amended minutes. Second to motion was made by Thomas Ouellette. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Communications

Thomas Ouellette reported that resident Gary Burr declined to have the pond on his property inspected for aquatic invasives.

C. Application related Correspondences: IWC & PZC applications:

Proposed Cumberland Farms Convenience Store with gas, formerly Thornton's, located at 333 Talcottville and Hockanum Blvd. had withdrawn their application but has now resubmitted the application with slight changes. Shaun Gately will provide the proposed site plans to the Commission and Ryan Goad will revise a letter previously written.

Taco Bell, 135 Talcottville Road, is being sub divided to separate Block Buster and Taco Bell.

D. Letters sent by Conservation Commission last month.

None

Motion was made by Ryan Goad to adjust the agenda to discuss Item 12 Other Goals. Second to motion was made by Thomas Ouellette. Motion carried unanimously.

Rod Parlee, Chair of Bolton Conservation Commission and Peter Vandine a resident of Bolton attended the meeting to discuss and update concerns for the Bolton Lakes ERT request previously written in 1978 and concerns which were previously listed in 2008. Vernon will be represented at the meeting by Scott Wieting and Russell Kunz.

Additional concerns were as follows:

- Soils – Establish a baseline to compare when sewers are completed.
- Erosion – How much of the sewer project will lead to erosion? / How quickly does erosion effect the lakes? / Review the timing of the drawdown / Niad and Fanwart are invasives in lower Bolton lake / Due to the high phosphorous there is a concern of runoff from fertilizer on the lawns surrounding the lakes. (Chemical uses are a main concern for Scott Wieting).
- Hydrology – There should be a study of all three areas of the lake to understand all the inflows and how they work together / map of inputs should be noted.
- Stormwater Drainage – Look at point and non-point service.
- Water Quality – Recommendations for bacteria created by geese / adding filament stations.
- Water Supply – Ground water inventory.
- Sewage Disposal – Out of Conservation Commission's scope of authority.
- Wetlands – Bolton and Vernon can provide a map of potential vernal pools.
- Lakes / Ponds – Request a management plan on this topic for surveying invasives.
- Fisheries – Recreation should be added and ERT should ask for additional educational material regarding cross contamination for people that canoe, kayak and boat on all three lakes.
- Wildlife – Examine water fowl / look to preserve White Cedar Forest.
- Forestry / Vegetation – Should be strictly monitored / Atlantic White Cedar is very unique to this inland area.

Rod Parlee read his article regarding the Tulip Tree Trail opening to the Commission for approval. The original date had been cancelled due to rain. Rob suggested inviting town officials for a ribbon cutting. The Vernon Commission recommended having a rain date added to the article.

3. PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

A Public Hearing has not been scheduled for the OPM Meeting.

4. LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID) GRANT APPLICATION

This item will be changed on the next agenda to read "Low Impact Development Implementation". Shawn Gately will follow up on the missing LID information not showing on the town website.

5. AQUATIC INVASIVES

Thomas Ouellette sent letters to 17 property owners for permission to inspect ponds on their properties. Nine positive responses have been received and two responses have been negative. George Knoecklein had sampled Papermill pond and found milfoil. Thomas Ouellette will follow up with George for corrective actions. Valley Falls is clean and Walker Reservoir has milfoil. Possible use of suction harvesting will be discussed.

Scott Wieting will post a notice on the Facebook page to urge volunteers to participate in the invasives project as well as volunteers for new membership with the Commission.

6. SCENIC ROADS

No Action.

7. WEB SITE, EDUCATION & PUBLIC OUTREACH

Scott Wieting will advise Rob Parlee of the Commission's approval for the article written for the Tulip Tree Trail opening.

8. TALCOTTVILLE MILL PROGRESS ON WETLANDS REMEDIATION

A formal application should be submitted to the PZC. If funding is received the project will move forward.

9. OPEN SPACE PROCESS/ZONE

No Action.

10. VERNAL POOLS

No Action.

11. TANKERHOSEN WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This item is being addressed in Agenda Items 4, 5, and 10. Scott Wieting will speak to Len Tundermann about adding this item back on the Planning webpage.

12. OTHER GOALS

This item was discussed as the first item on the agenda. (Rod Parlee's presentation)

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 P.M. by Scott Wieting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Blanche Perillo".

Blanche Perillo, Recording Secretary